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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/750,023	12/31/2003	Ho Lee	AB-1350 US	9344

7590 10/11/2005

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EXAMINER

LUND, JEFFRIE ROBERT

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1763

DATE MAILED: 10/11/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/750,023

Applicant(s)

LEE, HO

Examiner

Jeffrie R. Lund

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 June 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 31 December 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2/05, 6/05.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-9 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Zhao et al, US Patent 5,558,717.

Zhao et al teaches a CVD apparatus that includes: a processing chamber 134 with an inner space 141; a gas feed member 126 for supplying a gas into the chamber; an aluminum diffuser 122 partitioning the inner space of the chamber into a first and second partitions having a plurality of holes 121 and includes an “L” shaped extension overlapping a surface of the insulating frame (area surrounding O-ring 125) 120, the ceramic insulating frame 120 disposed in between the chamber and the diffuser, and located on the lower surface of the “L” shaped extension; a baffle plate (blocking plate) 124 for mixing and spreading the gas feed member before passing through the holes of the diffuser; and an RF source connected to the diffuser and the pedestal is grounded. (Entire document, specifically Figure 1) The specific substrate processed is an intended use of the apparatus and the apparatus of Zhao et al can inherently process any desired substrate.

3. Claims 1, 2, 4-9, and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Koai et al, US Patent 6,106,625.

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Koai et al teaches a CVD apparatus that includes: a processing chamber 150 with an inner space 26; a gas feed member 160 for supplying a gas into the chamber; a diffuser 156 partitioning the inner space of the chamber into a first and second partitions having a plurality of holes 180 and includes an "L" shaped extension 158 overlapping a surface of the insulating frame 174, the ceramic insulating frame 174 disposed in between the chamber and the diffuser, and located on the lower surface of the "L" shaped extension; a baffle plate (blocking plate) 30 for mixing and spreading the gas feed member before passing through the holes of the diffuser; and an RF source connected to the diffuser and the pedestal is grounded. (Entire document, specifically Figure 8) The specific substrate processed is an intended use of the apparatus and the apparatus of Koai et al can inherently process any desired substrate.

4. Claims 1, 2, 4-6, and 8-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Leusink et al, US Patent 6,302,057 B1.

Leusink et al teaches a CVD apparatus that includes: a processing chamber 10 with an inner space 15; a gas feed member 65 for supplying a gas into the chamber; a metal diffuser 20 partitioning the inner space of the chamber into a first and second partitions having a plurality of holes 21 and includes an "L" shaped extension 54 overlapping a surface 52 of the ceramic insulating frame 120, the ceramic insulating frame 120 disposed in between the chamber and the diffuser, and located on the surface of the "L" shaped extension and facing the surface of the substrate; and an RF source 24 connected to the diffuser 20 and the pedestal is grounded. (Entire document, specifically Figure 1) The specific substrate processed is an intended use of the

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apparatus and the apparatus of Leusink et al can inherently process any desired substrate.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 3 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Leusink et al, US Patent 6,302,057, in view of Zhao et al, US Patent 5,558,717.

Leusink et al was discussed above.

Leusink et al differs from the present invention in that Leusink et al does not teach that the diffuser 20 is stainless steel or aluminum, and a baffle plate.

Zhao et al teaches an aluminum diffuser plate and a baffle plate as discussed above.

The motivation for making the diffuser of Leusink et al out of aluminum as taught by Zhao et al is to provide a specific metal as required by Leusink et al but only generically described. The motivation for adding a baffle plate to the showerhead of Leusink et al is to more uniformly distribute the gas supplied to the diffuser of Leusink et al as taught by Zhao et al.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make the diffuser of Leusink et al out of aluminum and add a diffuser as taught by Zhao et al.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments filed June 29, 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In regard to the argument that Zhao et al and Koai et al teaches that the insulator under the extension and not on the extension, the Examiner disagrees. "On" is a very broad word and includes "on" the lower side of the extension. Thus, the insulators of Zhao et al and Koai et al are "on" the extensions.

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The cited art teaches the technological background of the invention.

9. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

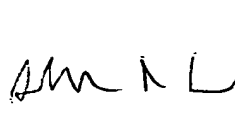
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the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jeffrie R. Lund whose telephone number is (571) 272-1437. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday (6:30 am-6:00pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Parviz Hassanzadeh can be reached on (571) 272-1435. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Jeffrie R. Lund
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1763

JRL
9/10/05